

REMARKS

In the aforementioned claim amendments, claims 1 and 14 have been amended and claim 27 added. Now pending in the application are claims 1 – 27, of which claims 1, 14 and 27 are independent. The following comments address all stated grounds of rejection. The Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to pass the claims to allowance in view of the remarks set forth below.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 14 have been amended to clarify the scope of the claimed invention. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14 to recite a processing unit (in claim 1) or the step (claim 14) for processing the bitmap using a window structure to generate *a modulated control signal* for controlling the print engine to produce a printed output that simulates the higher resolution. Support for the claim amendments can be found in Figs. 2 and 4 and corresponding descriptions in the Specification. No new matter has been introduced.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,742,708 (“Yeh”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a printing system having a print engine for printing at a native resolution. The printing system includes a bitmap for at least a portion of an image at a higher resolution, wherein the higher resolution is higher than the native resolution. The printing system also includes a processing unit for processing the bitmap using a window structure to generate *a modulated control signal* for controlling the print engine to produce a printed output that simulates the higher resolution. Claim 14 is a method claim that parallels claim 1.

The Yeh reference discloses a system and method for performing perspective projection conversion.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Yeh reference fails to disclose each and every element of the claimed invention. The Yeh reference fails to disclose the processing unit or the step for processing the bitmap using a window structure to generate *a modulated control signal* for controlling the print engine to produce a printed output that simulates the higher resolution, as recited in claims 1 and 14.

The Yeh reference discloses in FIG. 1 a binarization circuit (5) that converts high pixel depth resolution image data into binarized image data. The Yeh reference also discloses that the binarized image data from the binarization circuit is fed into an image output terminal (7), such as a laser printer and thermal ink-jet printer. (See, the Yeh reference, column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 7). The Yeh reference further discloses that the binarization circuit can be an error diffusion circuit, which is described with reference to Figs. 8-13 of the Yeh reference.

In comparison, the claimed invention generates *a modulated control signal* for controlling the print engine to produce a printed output. The illustrative embodiment of the claimed invention described with reference to Fig. 2 of the pending application includes a modulator circuit (18) that receives the bitmap created by the window processing unit (16) and the LUT (17), and creates a modulated video signal applied to the print engine (12) for control of the laser to reproduce the input image. (See, the Specification, page 5, lines 10-22). The illustrative embodiment may use pulse modulation techniques to modulate the video or control signal. The Yeh reference does not disclose that the image output terminal receives a modulated video or control signal. The Yeh reference just discloses that the image output terminal receives *binarized image data*.

Additionally, the Yeh reference fails to disclose that each element of the window structure has a weighted value, as recited in claims 7 and 20. The Yeh reference discloses 2 x 2 or 3 x 3 window structures in Figs. 2-5. In the 3 x 3 window of the Yeh reference, for example, the number of ON pixels within the window is counted and used as an address in the Look-Up Table (LUT). The Yeh reference, however, does not disclose that each element in these 2 x 2 or 3 x 3 window structures has a weighted value.

In light of the aforementioned arguments, Applicant submits the Yeh reference fails to disclose each and every element of claims 1 and 14. Applicant therefore submits that claims 1-26 are in condition for allowance and requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-26.

New Claims

Claim 27 has newly been added to clarify the scope of the claimed invention. Claim 27 recites a print system that includes a modulator and a weighted window structure. Supports for the new claim 27 could be found in Fig. 2 and 6 and corresponding descriptions in the Specification. In light of the arguments set forth above, Applicant submits that new claim 27 is patentably distinct over the cited prior art reference and in condition for allowance.

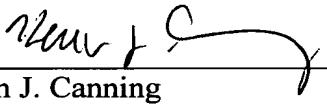
CONCLUSION

In light of the aforementioned arguments, Applicant contends that each of the Examiners' rejections has been adequately addressed and the pending application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the Applicant's attorney at (617) 227-7400.

Applicant believes \$18.00 is due with this statement. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. OAQ-019 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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